

THE HONORABLE RICHARD A. JONES

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

MICHAEL BRADY,

Plaintiff,

vs.

AUTOZONE STORES, INC., and
AUTOZONERS, LLC,

Defendant.

CASE NO. 2:13-CV-01862-RAJ

STIPULATED
PROTECTIVE ORDER

1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection may be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order.

The parties acknowledge that this agreement is consistent with LCR 26(c). It does not confer blanket protection on all disclosures or responses to discovery, the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable legal principles, and it does not presumptively entitle parties to file confidential information under seal.

1 2. “CONFIDENTIAL” MATERIAL

2 “Confidential” material shall include the following documents and tangible things
3 produced or otherwise exchanged:

- 4 a) individual employee evaluation materials
- 5 b) the financial books and records of the producing party and financial information
6 pertaining to the financial books and records
- 7 c) information about the revenues, costs, expenses, profits, and losses of the
8 producing party
- 9 d) information that the producing party has regarding its customers and its
10 competitors
- 11 e) non-public contracts that the producing party has with suppliers, vendors,
12 customers, contractors, and subcontractors
- 13 f) requests for proposals, requests for information or related documents, and
14 responses thereto
- 15 g) any information that the producing party is obligated by contract or state or
16 federal law to keep confidential
- 17 h) personal information of any employee, customer, or other person (including
18 compensation information, social security numbers, and individual contact
19 information)
- 20 i) medical information
- 21 j) information about the producing party’s computer information systems, general
22 hardware and software specifications and related instructions and training
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information, where such information is reasonably likely to disclose proprietary data or may increase the risk of a security breach

k) Except to the extent they bear directly on the claims and defenses in this action, a producing party's journals, cell phone records, social media posts, or similar non-public information.

3. SCOPE

The protections conferred by this agreement cover not only confidential material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted from confidential material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of confidential material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or presentations by parties or their counsel that might reveal confidential material. However, the protections conferred by this agreement do not cover information that is in the public domain or becomes part of the public domain through trial or otherwise; information that the receiving party can show was obtained (without any benefit or use of Confidential material) from a third party having the right to disclose such information to the receiving party without restriction or obligation of confidentiality, information that, after its disclosure to a receiving party, is published to the general public by a party having the right to publish such information, or information that the receiving party can show by written record was independently developed by it after the time of disclosure by personnel who did not have access to the producing party's Confidential Material.

4. ACCESS TO AND USE OF CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL

4.1 Basic Principles. A receiving party may use confidential material that is disclosed or produced by another party or by a non-party in connection with this case only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this litigation. Confidential material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this

1 agreement. Confidential material must be stored and maintained by a receiving party at a
2 location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized
3 under this agreement.

4 4.2 Disclosure of "CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items. Unless otherwise
5 ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the designating party, a receiving party may
6 disclose any confidential material only to:

7 (a) the receiving party's counsel of record in this action, as well as
8 employees of counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this
9 litigation;

10 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including in house counsel) of
11 the receiving party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation, unless the
12 parties agree that a particular document or material produced is for Attorney's Eyes Only and
13 is so designated;

14 (c) experts and consultants to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for
15 this litigation and who have signed the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound"
16 (Exhibit A);

17 (d) the court, court personnel, and court reporters and their staff;

18 (e) copy or imaging services retained by counsel to assist in the duplication
19 of confidential material, provided that counsel for the party retaining the copy or imaging
20 service instructs the service not to disclose any confidential material to third parties and to
21 immediately return all originals and copies of any confidential material;

22 (f) during their depositions, witnesses in the action to whom disclosure is
23 reasonably necessary and who have signed the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be
24 Bound" (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed by the designating party or ordered by the court.

25 Pages of transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal confidential
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1 material must be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone
2 except as permitted under this agreement;

3 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a
4 custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information.

5 4.3 Filing Confidential Material. Before filing confidential material or discussing
6 or referencing such material in court filings, the filing party shall confer with the designating
7 party to determine whether the designating party will remove the confidential designation,
8 whether the document can be redacted, or whether a motion to seal or stipulation and
9 proposed order is warranted. Local Civil Rule 5(g) sets forth the procedures that must be
10 followed and the standards that will be applied when a party seeks permission from the court
11 to file material under seal.

12 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

13 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each
14 party or non-party that designates information or items for protection under this agreement
15 must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the
16 appropriate standards. The producing party may designate entire documents (e.g., payroll
17 records, time records, personnel and employee files, internal policies, pricing and
18 compensation plans, third-party contracts, emails and native electronic materials, cell phone
19 records, bank records) as Confidential unless the receiving party promptly (within 30 days)
20 and reasonably requests that the producing party identify portions of a produced document
21 that are not confidential, in which case the producing party will review the document to
22 determine what portions are not confidential and, to the extent practicable, identify non-
23 confidential portions of the document. Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are
24 prohibited. Designations that are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for
25 an improper purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber or delay the case development process
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1 or to impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) expose the designating party
2 to sanctions.

3 If it comes to a designating party's attention that information or items that it
4 designated for protection do not qualify for protection, the designating party must promptly
5 notify all other parties that it is withdrawing the mistaken designation.

6 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in this
7 agreement (see, *e.g.*, second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise stipulated or
8 ordered, disclosure or discovery material that qualifies for protection under this agreement
9 must be clearly so designated before or when the material is disclosed or produced.

10 (a) Information in documentary form: (*e.g.*, paper or electronic documents
11 and deposition exhibits, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial
12 proceedings), the designating party must affix the word "CONFIDENTIAL" to each page that
13 contains confidential material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies
14 for protection, the producing party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (*e.g.*, by
15 making appropriate markings in the margins).

16 (b) Testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial or trial proceedings:
17 the parties must identify on the record, during the deposition, hearing, or other proceeding, all
18 protected testimony, without prejudice to their right to so designate other testimony after
19 reviewing the transcript. Any party or non-party may, within fifteen days after receiving a
20 deposition transcript, designate portions of the transcript, or exhibits thereto, as confidential.

21 (c) Other tangible items: The producing party must affix in a prominent
22 place on the exterior of the container or containers in which the information or item is stored
23 the word "CONFIDENTIAL." If only a portion or portions of the information or item warrant
24 protection, the producing party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected
25 portion(s).
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1 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to
 2 designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the designating
 3 party's right to secure protection under this agreement for such material. Upon timely
 4 correction of a designation, the receiving party must make reasonable efforts to ensure that the
 5 material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this agreement.

6 6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

7 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any party or non-party may challenge a designation of
 8 confidentiality at any time. Unless a prompt challenge to a designating party's confidentiality
 9 designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable, substantial unfairness, unnecessary economic
 10 burdens, or a significant disruption or delay of the litigation, a party does not waive its right to
 11 challenge a confidentiality designation by electing not to mount a challenge promptly after the
 12 original designation is disclosed.

13 6.2 Meet and Confer. The parties must make every attempt to resolve any dispute
 14 regarding confidential designations without court involvement. Any motion regarding
 15 confidential designations or for a protective order must include a certification, in the motion
 16 or in a declaration or affidavit, that the movant has engaged in a good faith meet and confer
 17 conference with other affected parties in an effort to resolve the dispute without court action.
 18 The certification must list the date, manner, and participants to the conference. A good faith
 19 effort to confer requires a face-to-face meeting or a telephone conference.

20 6.3 Judicial Intervention. If the parties cannot resolve a challenge without court
 21 intervention, the designating party may file and serve a motion to retain confidentiality under
 22 Local Civil Rule 7 (and in compliance with Local Civil Rule 5(g), if applicable). The burden
 23 of persuasion in any such motion shall be on the designating party. Frivolous challenges, and
 24 those made for an improper purpose (*e.g.*, to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and
 25 burdens on other parties) may expose the challenging party to sanctions. All parties shall
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1 continue to maintain the material in question as confidential until the court rules on the
2 challenge.

3 7. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN
4 OTHER LITIGATION

5 If a party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation that
6 compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this action as
7 “CONFIDENTIAL,” that party must:

8 (a) promptly notify the designating party in writing and include a copy of
9 the subpoena or court order;

10 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order
11 to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or
12 order is subject to this agreement. Such notification shall include a copy of this agreement;
13 and

14 (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be
15 pursued by the designating party whose confidential material may be affected.

16 8. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

17 If a receiving party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed
18 confidential material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this
19 agreement, the receiving party must immediately (a) notify in writing the designating party of
20 the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the
21 protected material, (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were
22 made of all the terms of this agreement, and (d) request that such person or persons execute
23 the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
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1 9. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE
 2 PROTECTED MATERIAL

3 When a producing party gives notice to receiving parties that certain inadvertently
 4 produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, the obligations of the
 5 receiving parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This
 6 provision is not intended to modify whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery
 7 order or agreement that provides for production without prior privilege review. The parties
 8 stipulate to the entry of an order regarding the applicability of Fed.R.Evid. 502(d) to this case,
 9 in the language set forth in the Order below.

10 The parties agree that privilege logs need not include privileged communications
 11 occurring after the filing of the complaint in this matter.

12 10. TERMINATION AND DESTRUCTION OF CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

13 Within 60 days after the termination of this action, including all appeals, each
 14 receiving party must return all confidential material to the producing party, including all
 15 copies, extracts and summaries thereof. Alternatively, the parties may agree upon appropriate
 16 methods of destruction.

17 Notwithstanding this provision, counsel are entitled to retain one archival copy of all
 18 documents filed with the court, trial, deposition, and hearing transcripts, correspondence,
 19 deposition and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert
 20 work product, even if such materials contain confidential material; *FURTHER PROVIDED*,
 21 counsel for a party may certify that Confidential documents will continue to be maintained
 22 securely and consistent with the provisions of this Order. Any such confidential materials
 23 shall not be used for any non-archival purpose.

1 The confidentiality obligations imposed by this agreement shall remain in effect until
2 a designating party agrees otherwise in writing or a court orders otherwise. The parties agree
3 not to use any of these materials or information in subsequent litigation.

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5 IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.
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7 DATED: _____ By: /s/ Michael C. Subit by email authorization
8 Michael C. Subit, WSBA No. 29189
9 Steven B. Frank, WSBA No. 4944
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11 705 Second Avenue, Suite 1200
12 Seattle, WA 98104
13 206-682-67111
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Attorneys for Plaintiff

14 DATED: _____ By: /s/ Stephanie Wright Pickett
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Attorneys for Defendants

1 PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED:
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3 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Fed.R.Evid. 502(d), the production of
4 any documents in this proceeding shall not, for the purposes of this proceeding or any other
5 proceeding in any other court, constitute a waiver by the producing party of any privileged
6 applicable to those documents, including the attorney-client privilege, attorney work product
7 protection or any other privilege or protection recognized by law.
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9 DATED this 7th day of April, 2014.

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12 The Honorable Richard A. Jones
13 United States District Judge
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EXHIBIT A

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, _____ [print or type full name], of _____
[print or type full address], declare under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was issued by the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington on [date] in the case of *Brady v. AutoZone Stores, Inc. and AutoZoners, LLC*, Case No. 2:13-cv-01852-RAJ. I agree to comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that is subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this action.

Date: _____

City and State where sworn and signed: _____

Printed name: _____

Signature: _____